



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

March 9, 2009

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM has concerns with Committee Senate Bill 557 "An Act Concerning the Display of "Antique" Motor Vehicle Number Plates on "Modified" Antique Motor Vehicles."

CCM is concerned with what the definition of "modified" is as it is written in section 1(a) of S.B 557.

- "The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may issue special number plates for antique rare or special interest motor vehicles, **including antique, rare or special interest motor vehicles that have been modified.**" [emphasis added]

This language would change the definition of what qualifies as an antique, rare or special interest motor vehicle under section 14-1(3) of the Connecticut General Statutes:

- "Antique, rare or special interest motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle twenty years old or older which is being preserved because of historic interest and ***which is not altered or modified from the original manufacturer's specifications.***[emphasis added]

"Modified" is a broad term that could mean many things – it could be an older shell of a vehicle with changes inside so that it is used for shows or other things, and may thus have a real value above the limits in the bill.

CCM urges the Committee to **take no action** on S.B 557 without a more accurate definition of "modified" and how and if it would affect (a) the qualifying standards of an antique, rare or special interest motor vehicle, and (b) municipal revenue.

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If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Analyst
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